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Good Government Problems.

LIVE QUESTIONS.

A Series of Articles Contributed to These Columns by Advanced Thinkers.

CONCRETE CONFUSION—FIRST PRINCIPLES AND COMMON SENSE APPLIED—THE MONEY QUESTION DIVERTED OF THE BUILDING UP OF THE COUNTRY WHICH BESET IT.

What is money? Simply a convenience. In itself it is not a means to an end. Man invented money as an accommodation in the exchange of necessary commodities. He did not do this until commerce between people, distant separated, made it a valuable convenience. Money is not a necessity in the exchange of the products of neighbors.

The first money was not gold, silver, copper, nickel, steel or any kind of even paper. As money itself is a mere convenience, so is the selection of the substance from which it is made.

Money plays the same part in commerce that railroads, wagon roads and rivers do. They facilitate exchange. Several means of transportation have been found desirable; so have several forms of money. Each is a convenience.

All help making money. There is no form of money that is a measure of value. A day's labor is the measure of all values. The amount of labor necessary to produce a given amount of any substance necessary to the wants of man is the measure of its value. This is another indisputable fact and is the arch which supports all financial systems. It is the basis of commerce. If it takes five days' labor to produce ten bushels of wheat, that wheat is equal in value to the amount of silver or gold that can be produced by five days' labor.

This is nature's measure. It is the only measure. Any system of finance or commerce that does not recognize this inexorable law is faulty and must prove a failure.

The substance that has been used for money has been changed from time to time as man has found the one more convenient than the other. Convenience counts value, durability, etc. Gold, silver, nickel and copper are now

the most convenient of the metals from which money can be made; hence they are used. They occupy the exalted position of money metals alone on account of their convenience.

The element of their convenience which causes disturbance is value. Their values change. Man has attempted to prevent this fluctuation by statutory provisions with invariable failure. Why? Because in his legal enactments he ignored nature's measure of value. If a man produces 32 bushels of wheat in a day's labor, and buys one bushel of wheat by a day's labor, the value of one bushel of wheat is equal to the 32 bushels of potatoes and double that of 16 of them. No statutory law can change this relative value.

To say that the supply of silver has increased is but to state that there is a good crop of silver; that for a given number of days' labor, delivered in the number of bushels of wheat, an increased number of bushels of silver have been produced. To say that the supply of gold has decreased is but to state that gold has been produced in less quantity.

A statutory provision cannot control the relative value of two commodities or the value of any single commodity. It is possible to fix a unit of measure by the relative value of two commodities. It is possible to fix a unit of measure by the relative value of two commodities. It is possible to fix a unit of measure by the relative value of two commodities.

Make one class of these certificates legal tender. It makes no particular difference which. This would change the money monochrome, but names are only conveniences. We would not have dollars and fractions thereof, but the unit would be a grain and its multiples, hence transactions would be made in grains of gold, or according to the metric weight system. An individual promissory note would read: "Thirty days from date I promise to pay John Doe 10,000 grains of gold (or 320,000 grains of silver, if silver is made the standard), with interest at 6 per cent per annum. Value received." Prices of all articles would be reckoned in grains instead of cents.

The fluctuation in the market value of the metals is as well provided for in this proposed system as now and as good as it is possible for money to be. When you agree to pay \$5 now, you really agree to pay so many grains of gold or of silver, and the payment is so made, for if you liquidate the indebtedness with a treasury note, the payee can step into the nearest bank and secure his gold or silver coin which contains the requisite grains of bullion.

The unlimited use of each metal and the fact that there is not enough, both taken, to supply the demand for money, would hold the values as steady as is possible. The chaos of fluctuation exists in every business transaction, and experience has proved that it is less in gold and silver than in any other commodity which is convenient for money. Between these two it is less in gold; hence to that extent gold is the preferable standard.

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ONE OF MINNESOTA'S CULTIVATED WOMEN LEADERS.

Talented Women in South Dakota—Bargues and Coats—Beneficial to Australia—A Missionary Heroine—A Woman's Rights Decision—Passing of the Skirt.

Miss Margaret Evans, president of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, is one of the most cultured ladies in the west. A thoroughly educated woman, she has received most of what she has seen, and her early and complete training in the classics gave her a keenness of appreciation of what she saw in Europe that is the good fortune of few travelers. "You must take the Pantheon with you," said Professor Snider, and certainly if any one that has gone abroad has had a genuine feeling for the classics it is Miss Evans. She has spent most of her life in Minnesota. Her academic education was given her at Winona. Thence she entered the Lawrence university at Appleton, Wis. Before entering college she taught four years and spent her vacations in her capacity as a pedagogue. She has a fine appreciation of the excellent points

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Talented Women in South Dakota—Bargues and Coats—Beneficial to Australia—A Missionary Heroine—A Woman's Rights Decision—Passing of the Skirt.

Miss Margaret Evans, president of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, is one of the most cultured ladies in the west. A thoroughly educated woman, she has received most of what she has seen, and her early and complete training in the classics gave her a keenness of appreciation of what she saw in Europe that is the good fortune of few travelers. "You must take the Pantheon with you," said Professor Snider, and certainly if any one that has gone abroad has had a genuine feeling for the classics it is Miss Evans. She has spent most of her life in Minnesota. Her academic education was given her at Winona. Thence she entered the Lawrence university at Appleton, Wis. Before entering college she taught four years and spent her vacations in her capacity as a pedagogue. She has a fine appreciation of the excellent points

of five inches deep and must be pretty lined, as the under part shows. The blouse omits the center back seam and the fronts may be like an Eton jacket over a full vest, or the plastron and vest effects are applied outside of the blouse. The only double breasted design seen are the tailor made gowns worn with a chemise and having a rolling collar and revers.

The fashionable coat waists have the full blouse effect, but this is cut in with the remainder of the garment, and the skirt part of a Louis XVI coat is from 4 to 7 inches deep. These open straight down over an elaborate vest, and may be cut with an Eton front and long back. They have full or flat hips, always a full back, and the skirt part may begin at the center front or at the hips. This part is cut according to the wearer, so careful fitting is required. Very large points of square revers are worn on the coats, immense sleeves, crushed collars, and a large cravat bow or jacket. Such a coat will be set for wear with a vest of silk, or of figured colored silk with a black silk or wool skirt. They are worn by ladies of all ages and of every form.—Emma M. Hooper in Ladies' Home Journal.

Beneficial to Australia.
Mrs. Henry Hirst, an Australian author, in some recent remarks on the effect of woman's franchise in New Zealand said some interesting things: "Men of all shades of political opinion and at daggers drawn on other points agree that the granting of the vote to women has been beneficial to the colony."

"Mr. Seddon, the premier, has said: 'Women's influence at the elections and since has been productive of good. They are looking well after the interests of the children, the mitigation of the liquor traffic, the alteration of the regulations with regard to having female inspectors for women and other vital affairs.'"

"The leader of the opposition believed that the women had done much to purify the house and that their influence would yet be more beneficial in the same direction."

"The consensus of colonial opinion appears to be that the express tendency of the female vote is in favor of progress, the solid happiness of the individuals who compose the community."

"Domestic life has not been disturbed or even troubled by the female franchise of the household possessing votes, and the women in the exercise of domestic privileges have shown a more than usual amount of self-restraint."

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